Karimannur has to be investigated. The Todupuzha-Arakulam road has been completed except for the construction of some culverts at the 12th and 13th miles.

There are eight ryots' roads cut by ryots to which you referred; and they would be taken up for departmental maintenance as soon as applications are received in accordance with the rules.

Then, you want two new roads to be constructed. They will be placed before the Road Board for consideration.

The question of opening a bi-weekly dispensary either at Kudayattur or at Karimannur will be considered. It will not be feasible for the Medical Officer at Todupuzha to visit either place thrice a week; it will interfere with his other work.

An Anchal Office will be opened either at Karimannur or at Arakulam, or in both the places, if the local people are prepared to give the necessary guarantee and offer a building, and so on.

In regard to your request about schools, last year the strength of the English middle school was not sufficient to warrant the opening of higher classes. We will consider whether the strength of the school has increased. Provision of better accommodation in the vernacular middle school is being considered. In regard to the raising of the standard of the Karimannur primary school, I can only refer you to what I have said more than once on the matter. The policy of the Government is not to open additional middle schools but to leave secondary education, as far as possible, to private enterprise.

In regard to the opening of class VII in the girls' school at Todupuzha, a proposal was made to construct the shed necessary. This will have to wait. We will see if we can find money next year.

The question of changing the *Kuttakapattam* tenure of cardamom lands to a permanent tenure has to be considered.

All areas, which could be excluded from the reserves, have been, on the recommendation of the committee, disafforested. No further areas are available for disafforestation from the reserves in your taluk.

125. Needs of the Muvattupuzha taluk.

MR. EIPE VARGHESE (*Muvattupuzha taluk*): said that Muvattupuzha was very backward in point of means of communication. There were no natural means of water communication as in other taluks. As a result of repeated representations on this subject, the Government were pleased to sanction the construction of certain roads in the years 1099 and 1100. Since then, no new roads were constructed and even the roads already taken up were not made fit for traffic. The Government had also suspended the working of the Road Boards so that no new work could be taken up. This was not a wise step. The working of the Road Boards should be revived and all necessary works taken up. The following public works in the Muvattupuzha taluk were urgent and should be taken in hand at once:—

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(1) The ryots' road from the 2nd mile of the Koottattukulam—Piravam road to the 2nd mile of the Elanji—Piravam road should be taken over for departmental maintenance and made fit for cart traffic.

(2) The ryots' road from Muttolapuram on the Putuveli-Vaikam road to Tirumaradi should be taken over for departmental maintenance.

(3) Opening of a road from Peppatipara to Tottur *via* Pazhur.

(4) Opening of a road from the Piravam market to Tottur *via* Chalasseri.

(5) Conversion of the 6 feet trace from Peruvummuzhi on the 6th mile of the Muvattupuzha-Puthencruz road to Piravam into a cart road.

(6) Opening of a road from the 2nd mile of the Pampakuda-Puthencruz road to the Kizhmuri market.

(7) Completion of—

(i) the road from Varapetti to Neduvakad *via* Pottanikad;

(ii) the road from Trikkariyur to Periyar *via* Vettilapara; and

(iii) the road from Kotamangalam to Peruvinnur *via* Nadukani.

(8) Taking over for departmental maintenance the ryots' road from Pindimana to Trikkariyur.

(9) Construction of a road from the 2nd mile of the Muvattupuzha-Arakuzha road to meet the Muvattupuzha-Todupuzha road *via* Peringozha.

(10) Completion of the ryots' road from the 5th furlong, 4th mile, of the Muvattupuzha-Arakuzha road.

(11) Opening of the Chelad-Kilikutti road and its extension to Bhutattankettu on the bank of the Periyar river.

(12) Completion of the road from the 8th mile of the Kotamangalam-Perumbavur road to Koottikkal.

(13) Provision of *junghars*—

(i) at Piravam *kadavu* on the Piravam-Peppatipara road; and

(ii) at the Kudumbanattu *kadavu* on the Pampakuda-Puthencruz road.

(14) Completion of the road from Palachuvadu on the Elanji-Piravam road to meet the Koottattukulam-Piravam road near the Tirumaradi departmental school.

(15) Opening of a road from the 128th mile of the M. C. road to the 3rd mile of the Muvattupuzha-Anchalpetti road.

Besides the public works mentioned above, the Government should render all possible help to the agriculturists for the development of agriculture. Demonstration farms, manure depots, and veterinary hospitals should be opened. Instruction in scientific methods of agriculture and in the prevention of diseases affecting plants should be imparted to the general public by means of lectures and pamphlets. Minor irrigation works, in general, should be improved and in particular the following needs of the Muvattupuzha taluk, should be attended to:—

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(i) Construction of a tank near the Koottattukulam market.

(ii) Opening of a manure depot and a veterinary hospital near the Koottattukulam market.

(iii) Restoration of the *chira* comprised in Survey Number 808/5 of the Koottattukulam pakuthi.

The policy of the Government in regard to the temperance movement should be changed. It was their duty to minimise the drink evil. The Abkari branch of the Excise Department might even be abolished. The loss of revenue on this account might be compensated by the manufacture of jaggery from sweet toddy. Toddy should never be allowed to putrify because it was putrified toddy that was an intoxicant. These methods might be tried as an experimental measure where local option was being tried.

The next need was the opening of Village Panchayats in all important *pakuthies* of the Muvattupuzha taluk.

Muvattupuzha taluk was very backward in education and great difficulty was being experienced by the people for want of convenient schools. The number of V. M. schools in the Muvattupuzha taluk should be increased and the V. P. school at Edayar should be converted into a V. M. school.

A grant should be awarded to Mr. M. V. Thomman, M. D. H, who was running a homeœpathic dispensary at Tekkanmaradi in the Arakuzha pakuthi.

Lastly, the sanctioned public market in Survey No. 186/2 of the Arakuzha pakuthi should be brought into actual working as early as practicable.

DEWAN'S REPLY: I shall deal with the topics raised in your representation in the order in which you have got them in the list, Mr. Varghese.

The construction of the tank near the Koottattukulam market is awaiting the provision of funds.

A manure depot will be opened if either some respectable person or a co-operative society will take up the agency.

As the Veterinary Inspector is coming from Minachil to Koottattukulam occasionally, there is no immediate necessity to open a veterinary hospital there.

I have already said that the present policy of Government is not to open additional middle schools. Further facilities for secondary education are being left mainly to private enterprise.

Another long list of roads has been brought up by you.

The first mentioned ryots' road was considered by the District Road Board. It was unanimously decided to drop it for the present owing to the heavy cost.

The other two ryots' roads will be taken up under the rules if application is made in the regular manner.

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The road to Tottur *via* Pazhur will be too difficult to build, and will not be of much use to the public. The road from the Piravam market *via* Chalasseri will be placed before the District Road Board.

The conversion into a cart road of the trace from Peruvummuzhi to Piravam needs investigation. The road to Kizhmuri market is being investigated.

The opening of the Varapetti-Neduvakad road is being taken up section by section. The first five miles have almost been completed. The question of further extension will be placed before the Road Board.

The Periyar road is also being taken up section by section, but the work is held in abevance as land acquisition proceedings have not been finished. The portion of the road between the temple road and the temple will be taken up as soon as land acquisition, which is in progress, has been completed.

The first section of the Kotamangalam-Peruvinnur road *i. e.*, up to Nadukani, has been taken up and is in progress.

Land acquisition is in progress in respect of the road *viz* Pernigozha.

The same applies also to the ryots' road to Arakuzha school.

The Chelad-Kilikutti road has been given up because the ryots refused to surrender, free of compensation, the land required for the work.

As for the road to Koottikkal, an estimate has been received, and the question of acquiring the land required is under correspondence.

The Chief Engineer will be asked to put in an estimate for a *changadam* at Piravam *kadavu*. It is not considered necessary to provide one at the Kudumbanattu *kadavu*.

It is the present policy of Government not to give a grant to any homeopathic dispensary.

I have already mentioned the policy of Government towards the temperance movement, and I do not think I need do more than refer you to my answer to the previous speakers.

The same answer as that I gave to previous speakers, I have to give you also regarding Village Panchayats.

The restoration of the *chira* mentioned by you in the Koottattukulam pakuthi requires investigation.

The completion of the road *via* Tirumaradi will be referred to the Road Board.

The question of opening a public market in Survey No. 186/2 of the Arakuzha pakuthi was investigated, and it was decided that the establishment of the market there was not necessary.

The last road mentioned by you will be placed before the District Road Board.

The Assembly ajourned for lunch at 2-25 P. M. and met again at 3-7 P. M.

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